

but I think that the history of our streets  
would have less ugly names  
if we could celebrate men's lives  
also.

1984

at the racetracks in 1974  
a corned beef sandwich was 90 cents  
in 1975  
a corned beef sandwich was \$1.10  
in 1976 they were \$1.25  
in 1977, \$1.45  
in 1978, \$1.65  
in 1979 they will cost \$1.85  
in 1980, \$2.10  
in 1981, \$2.40  
in 1982, \$2.80  
in 1983, \$3.35  
in 1984, \$4.00  
and horses will have 5 legs, 3 eyes, 2  
jockeys and it will cost 25 cents to drink  
out of a coin-operated water fountain that will  
operate for 7 seconds.  
Arabia, West Germany, Japan and China will  
meet at the bargaining table  
and I will stop eating  
many people will stop eating  
corned beef sandwiches.

#### A NOTE UPON WASTE

I have green and white pajamas which  
I have only worn once.  
and once while drunk I  
twisted my ankle  
and I purchased a thick wooden cane  
for \$2 and I only used it once (at  
a racetrack).

there are other things I have only used  
once: one  
Joan one Diana one nameless Philadelphia  
whore one German girl whose name I have  
forgotten one girl in a bicycle warehouse  
one girlfriend of a girlfriend and one lady  
with very large nostrils.

once-used things,  
as they used me once.

I should at least wear my green and white  
pajamas tonight when I go to bed  
alone. my thick wooden cane I suppose was  
once needed.

#### A FACT

Antony's wife cut out Cicero's tongue.  
Charles Starkweather went to the electric chair  
on June 25, 1959. it took him 4 minutes to die.  
Charlotte Corday was 25 on June 13, 1793 when she  
pulled the plug on Jean-Paul Marat.

remember: declaration of personal bankruptcy remains  
on your credit record for 14 years.  
male silkworm moths can detect a female moth  
6 and 1/2 miles away.  
flying fish can stay airborne for 1,000 feet.  
the land crabs of Cuba can run faster than a horse.  
whales weighing 195 tons and mice weighing 3 ounces  
develop from the same size egg.  
Cleopatra never washed the dishes.

this is what happens when you sit down to  
write a poem and you can't write one.

#### OVERT POPULATION

I'll say one thing: her older sister wrote  
more novels than anybody I ever knew but  
the novels kept coming back. I read some  
of them, or rather -- parts of them. maybe  
they were good, I didn't know, I wasn't a  
critic: I didn't like Tolstoy or Thomas  
Mann or Henry James.  
anyhow, her novels kept coming back and  
her men kept leaving, and she just ate more,  
had more babies; she didn't bathe and seldom  
combed her hair and she let the diapers lay  
about stinking. and she talked continually  
and laughed continually -- a highly nervous and  
slicing laugh -- she talked about men and sex